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Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

July 11, 2011

Dear Mr. Chairman and Commissioners of the FCC:

I am writing from my perspective as executive director of Public Education Partners (PEP) of Aiken County, South Carolina, a non-profit initiative designed to support quality education for public school students. Founded in 1995 to mobilize the community to provide resources for unmet needs, PEP has helped develop supplemental K-12 programs in literacy, math, arts, science, humanity, and workforce preparation. We provide funding and also aim to leverage community resources to help prepare our students to aspire to a college education and also to achieve success in the work world.

Consistent with those goals, we are enthused by the prospect of enhanced wireless broadband services as a result of the proposed merger of AT&T with T-Mobile. We believe that the availability of next generation wireless service will provide an opportunity to enrich students' educational experience by connecting them to a wider range of informational resources than they could access at the local level alone. What's more, wireless connectivity means that students and teachers alike could access these resources from any place they choose. That's an exciting and invaluable option that enables learning to take place outside the classroom's walls.

By bringing advanced wireless broadband throughout Aiken County, the proposed merger also opens the door to greater use of so-called distance learning programs that can enable smaller school districts like ours to expand our curriculum with advanced, college-level course work. This is precisely the type of innovation that PEP was created to bring about.

*Public Education Partners is a 501(c)(3) organization. Your contributions are tax-deductible as allowed by law.*

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On the Web: [www.PublicEdPartners.org](http://www.PublicEdPartners.org)

We strongly believe this merger can help us enhance the educational experience of every student in Aiken County, and we urge you to give your blessing to the proposed transaction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Natalie Fox". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Natalie Fox  
Executive Director  
Public Education Partners

CC:

Senator Lindsey Graham  
Senator Jim DeMint  
Congressman Jeff Duncan  
Congressman Joe Wilson